

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GW, IT

SUBJECT: GENSCHER APRIL 20 INTERVIEW

REF: CASAGRANDE-SMYSER TELCON

FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF THE  
APRIL 20 "DEUTSCHLANDFUNK" RADIO INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN  
MINISTER GENSCHER, IN WHICH HE COMMENTED ON THE ITALIAN  
CRITICISM OF CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S COMMENTS ABOUT THE  
SITUATION IN ITALY, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE FRG AND THE  
GDR IN THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S  
VISIT TO AFRICA.

BEGIN TEXT:

QUESTION: THE CRITICISM WHICH THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR  
MADE ABOUT THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION IN ITALY,  
ESPECIALLY CONCERNING THE RULING DEMOCRAZIA CHRISTIANA,  
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HAS UPSET OUR EC AND NATO PARTNERS AND HAS ALSO BEEN

VERY CRITICALLY RECEIVED BY SEGMENTS OF THE GERMAN AND EUROPEAN PRESS. AS THE RESPONSIBLE MINISTER FOR THE FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC HOW DO YOU INTERPRET THE DISCUSSION WHICH THIS INTERVIEW OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR HAS CAUSED?

ANSWER: ONE MUST REMEMBER THAT IN THE LAST FOREIGN POLICY DISCUSSION IN THE GERMAN BUNDESTAG BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE OPPOSITION VOICED THEIR CONCERN ABOUT THE GROWING COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE EC. IN OUR OPINION THIS IS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE EC LIKE THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE IS A COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRATIC STATES, AND WE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN SEEING AN INCREASED COMMUNIST INFLUENCE ANYWHERE, PARTICULARLY IN ONE OF THE GOVERNMENTS. THIS CONCERN STOOD BEHIND THE REMARKS OF THE CHANCELLOR. ALL IN ALL, WE FIND OURSELVES IN A PHASE OF THE EUROPEAN POLITICAL SCENE, IN WHICH WE ARE MOVING CLOSER TO ONE ANOTHER. WE ARE STRIVING FOR A CO-ORDINATION OF ECONOMIC POLICIES FOR THE SAKE OF OUR INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL COORDINATION. WE HAVE EUROPEAN UNION AS OUR GOAL. THAT MEANS THAT WE NATURALLY ALSO ARE SPEAKING MORE OPENLY ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MEMBER STATES THAN WAS PERHAPS THE CASE IN THE PAST. AT THE SAME TIME WE ARE ALSO DISCUSSING ONE ANOTHER'S DOMESTIC POLICIES, AND NOT ONLY UNCRITICALLY. I BELIEVE THAT ONE MUST THEREFORE CONSIDER THE CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS WITH A VIEW TO THIS CONCERN. I KNOW -- AND THIS IS I BELIEVE A PRINCIPAL POINT -- THAT THE GOVERNING PARTY IN ITALY, THE DC, IS NATURALLY JUST AS CONCERNED OVER THE GROWING INFLUENCE OF THE COMMUNISTS AS ARE ALL THE OTHER DEMOCRATIC PARTIES INSIDE THE EC.

QUESTION: NONETHELESS, SHOULD NOT THE CHANCELLOR'S COMMENTS AS ESPECIALLY STRIKE ONE STRANGE WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THAT IT WAS NONE OTHER THAN HELMUT SCHMIDT WHO HAD URGED AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER MORE RESTRAINT IN HIS JUDGMENT ABOUT THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS AMONG THE ALLIANCE PARTNERS/

ANSWER: I HAVE ALREADY SAID ONCE THAT IT IS FULLY UNCLASSIFIED

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LEGITIMATE THAT THE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS, JUST AS THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN THE ALLIED STATES, HOLD SUCH CONCERNS AND THAT THEY ALSO VOICE THEM. I BELIEVE THAT IN THIS TOTAL CONTEXT ONE MUST VIEW THE COMMENTS OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE. THE MAIN POINT IS THAT THE RESPONSIBLE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL LEADERS OF THE WESTERN WORLD EXPLAIN THE DANGERS OF AN EXTENSION OF COMMUNIST

INFLUENCE TO THE PUBLIC IN THEIR COUNTRIES, BECAUSE  
WE ARE INTERESTED IN STRENGTHENING THE INTERNAL STABIL-  
ITY OF OUR ALLIES, THE INTERNAL STABILITY OF THE MEMBER  
STATES OF THE COMMUNITY. THAT MEANS NATURALLY ALSO  
THAT WE SOLVE THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WITH WHICH WE ARE  
FACED. THIS WE SEE AS GERMANS, BECAUSE WE BELIEVE  
THAT THE FRG THE AS A RESULT OF ITS LARGE AND EXEM-  
PLARY ECONOMIC STABILITY CAN CONTRIBUTE, AND BECAUSE

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WE ARE INTERESTED IN SEEING ALL THE EC STATES SOLVE  
THEIR ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. WE DO THIS BOTH IN THE  
INTEREST OF EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY AND ALSO NATURALLY IN  
OUR OWN INTEEST, BECAUSE ONLY A BACKGROUND OF STABIL-  
ITY CAN GUARANTEE THAT OUR POSITIVE ADVANCE CAN CON-  
TINUE IN LIKE MANNER. IN ANY WE KNOW THAT THE  
POLITICAL STABILITY OF DEMOCRATIC NATIONS IS ALSO AL-  
WAYS DEPENDENT ON THE SOLUTION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL

PROBLEMS.

QUESTION: THIS SPECIAL ROLE, THIS SPECIAL TASK AND RESPONSIBILITY OF WHICH YOU SPEAK, WHERE DOES IT BEGIN, AND WHERE ARE ITS NATURAL BORDERS FOR AFFECTING EVENTS IN THE PARTNER NATIONS?

ANSWER: I BELIEVE THAT THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY OF OUR NATION GIVES US HEAVIER FOREIGN POLICY WEIGHT. WE HAVE NOT SOUGHT THIS RESPONSIBILITY, UNCLASSIFIED

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BUT WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT IT. TIME AND AGAIN I HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE CANDOR AND FRIENDLINESS WITH WHICH THE HIGH COUNCILS OF THE EC HAVE DISCUSSED PROBLEMS IN OUR COUNTRIES AS WELL AS IN OTHER LANDS. THAT IS A SIGN OF GROWING TRUST, AND I BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENT DISCUSSION SHOULD BE SEEN MORE IN THIS CONTEXT.

QUESTION: IN A NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW, YOU REACTED TO THE CONCERN OF THE CDU'S GERMANY SPOKESMAN, MANFRED ABELEIN, THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL COULD BE A NEW STAGE FOR INNER-GERMAN ANTAGONISMS. YOU STATED THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC IS NOT READY TO WITHDRAW FROM THE WORLD POLITICAL SCENE. A SO-CALLED NEW HALLSTEIN DOCTRINE IS OUT OF THE QUESTION. HOWEVER, WHAT CONSEQUENCES DO YOU ENVISION FOR INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS AS A RESULT OF DOUBLE GERMAN MEMBERSHIP IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL?

ANSWER: MAY I FIRST SAY THAT THE INCREASED FOREIGN POLICY WEIGHT OF THE FRG IS NOT BASED ON OUR GREAT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY, BUT ON THE FACT THAT THE PRESENT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS CREATED INCREASED MANEUVERABILITY FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF OUR INTERESTS BY DIVESTING OUR FOREIGN POLICY FROM THE BURDENS OF THE HALLSTEIN DOCTRINE. WE TAKE THESE INTERESTS SERIOUSLY, BOTH IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND, AS I HOPE, ALSO FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE MAIN POINT IS THAT WE THERE REPRESENT THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF OUR POLICIES, THOSE PRINCIPLES THAT AIM TO SECURE PEACE AND AT THE SAME TIME STRIVE FOR A REALIZATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD INCLUDING GERMANY, AND FOR SELF-DETERMINATION FOR ALL PEOPLES, INCLUDING GERMANS. THE FACT THAT POSSIBLY A YEAR LATER THE GDR WILL OVERLAP WITH US IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD NOT PREVENT US FROM SEIZING THIS CHANCE TO REPRESENT GERMAN INTERESTS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. I BELIEVE IT IS VITAL THAT WE

PUSH OUR VIEWS THROUGH THE PERSUASIVENESS AND  
CREDIBILITY OF OUR POLICIES, WHEREVER THIS IS POSSIBLE,  
EVEN IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. WE ARE IN ANY EVENT NOT  
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PREPARED TO SEE A NEW HALLSTEIN DOCTRINE DEVELOP  
THAT WOULD EVOLVE INTO A MAXIM OF GERMAN FOREIGN  
POLICY WHEREBY WE WOULD NOT ENTER INTO AN ORGAN BECAUSE  
THE GDR WAS THERE OR WOULD BE REPRESENTED THERE WITH US  
FOR A GIVEN TIME.

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QUESTION: BUT IS THERE NOT A DANGER OF AN AGGRAVATED

CONFRONTATION OF THE TWO GERMAN STATES, OF AN INTENSIFIED COMPETITION AT LEAST IN THE MOST IMPORTANT BODY OF THE UN? HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MEET THIS DANGER?

ANSWER: I THINK WE WILL MEET IT WITH THE CONVINCING FORCE OF OUR POLICY. IF SUCH A DANGER DOES EXIST, IT OF COURSE ALSO EXISTS IN THE UN PLENUM. IT EXISTS WHEREVER WE MEET THE GDR, AND THAT IS WHY -- IF YOU THINK THIS THROUGH CONSISTENTLY -- THIS IDEA VOICED HERE BY THE OPPOSITION WILL IN FACT LEAD TO A RESTRICTION OF OUR FREEDOM OF ACTION IN THE FOREIGN POLICY FIELD. AND THIS CANNOT BE THE GOAL OF OUR POLICY. AS I SEE IT, IT IS THE GOAL OF POLITICS AND THE TASK OF THE POLICY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO BRING OUT WHEREVER POSSIBLE, AND TO GIVE EFFECT TO, THE VOICE OF THE FREE PART OF GERMANY.  
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QUESTION: IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC ALREADY BECAME ACTIVZ AS AN HONEST BROKER IN THE CASE OF OUR NATO PARTNERS GREECE AND TURKEY. TO WHAT EXTENT DID YOU LEND A HELPING HAND IN THE NASCENT RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THESE TWO COUNTRIES: THE POLITICAL LEADERS IN ANKARA AND ATHENS ARE AFTER ALL CONSIDERING THE IDEA OF A NON-AGGRESSION TREATY?

ANSWER: I WOULD NOT USE THE TERM 'HONEST BROKER' BECAUSE IT IS TOO PRETENTIOUS. IT IS TRUE, THOUGH, THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND WITHOUT SEEKING PUBLIC APPLAUSE, MADE EFFORTS TO HELP OUR TWO PARTNERS GREECE AND TURKEY IN THE SOLUTION OF THE GRAVE PROBLEMS ENCUMBERING THEM AS A RESULT OF CYPRUS CONFLICT. AS A RESULT, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC MANAGED TO MAINTAIN EQUALLY GOOD AND EQUALLY TRUSTFUL RELATIONS WITH THE TWO COUNTRIES ENGAGED IN THIS PROBLEM. I THINK THAT IS WHY WE WERE ABLE TO DO OUR SHARE IN DISARMING THIS CONFLICT AND, I HOPE, IN BRINGING IT TO A CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTION NOW.

QUESTION: LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION CONCERNING AFRICA. MINISTER OF STATE WISCHNEWSKI IS CURRENTLY PAYING A VISIT TO THE BLACK CONTINENT, AND U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER WILL SET OUT ON A TRIP TO AFRICA NEXT WEEK. HOW WOULD YOU DEFINE THE GERMAN POLICY VIS--VIS AFRICA IN THE WESTERN ALLIED CAMP?

ANSWER: YOU KNOW THAT I PAID A RATHER LONG VISIT TO AFRICA LAST YEAR. WHILE I WAS THERE, I MENTIONED AS ONE GOAL OF OUR POLICY THAT WE ARE FOR THE INDEPENDENCE

OF THE AFRICAN STATES. WE ALSO SUCCEEDED IN MAKING THIS POLICY THE COMMON POLICY OF THE EC. WE ARE IN FACT FACED WITH THE TASK OF PREVENTING THE CREATION OF NEW ZONES OF INFLUENCE IN AFRICA, AS FOR INSTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN ANGOLA. WE WANT THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE FOR ALL AFRICAN STATES, BUT WE DO NOT PROPOSE TO EXPORT OUR GOVERNMENTAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL SYSTEM. INSTEAD, THE AFRICAN NATIONS THEMSELVES MUST DECIDE ABOUT THIS.

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THIS IS ALSO THE POSITION OF THE EC NOW. I THINK THAT FOR THIS REASON THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE'S TRIP THROUGH AFRICA IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE. IN ANY CASE, WE WELCOME THIS TRIP AS IT AFFORDS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE U.S. CLEARLY TO DEFINE ITS POSITION VIS-A-VIS AFRICA. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE U.S., LIKE WE IN THE EC, WILL PROVE TO BE AN ADVOCATE OF AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE. END TEXT.

HILLENBRAND

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